

BA-48

St. Thomas' Church, (Garrison Forest Church)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 06-23-2004

UNITED STATES DEPT/MENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Thomas' Church; St. Thomas Parish, Baltimore County

AND/OR COMMON

St. Thomas' Church, Garrison Forest; Garrison Forest Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

200 St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Baltimore

CODE

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Vestry of St. Thomas Parish

STREET & NUMBER

St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Chesapeake Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Thomas' Church is located at the intersection of St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road in Garrison, Maryland. There are three major sections of the church - the original part (now the nave) built 1743-44, the transepts and chancel built in 1890 and the narthex in 1970.

The original Georgian church built of salmon red brick measures 56' by 36'. It had a gambrel roof, hipped at the ends. There are eight, large, round-arched windows in the nave, four in the north and four in the south walls. The top portion of the window including the arch have clear, hand blown, leaded glass in a diamond pattern; the bottom sections have rectangular panes with wooden mullions. Much of the glass is original and was installed in 1743. An original arched doorway remains as the central exterior bay of the south wall. During the late nineteenth century, this door was sealed and plastered over inside and the principal entrance moved to the west wall. The nave has a wide central aisle of brick. On either side of the aisle are box-type, panelled pews with doors.

In 1890, through the generosity of one of the parishoners, the church was enlarged by the addition of a chancel and transepts. The steep gable roof was added at that time and later the cupola at the intersection of the ridge. The interior shows some Gothic Revival detail. Though the nave and transepts have a flat ceiling, there are suggestion of molded ribs in a non-structural, rectangular pattern. They are visually supported by others arched from the walls and are decorated with typical late nineteenth century carving. The south transept has a brick aisle and pews similar to those in the nave. In the north transept is the choir and organ. The barrel vaulted chancel has a ceiling with the rectangular rib pattern. Its three round-arched, opaque stained glass windows, made by the John LaForge studios of New York in 1893, show Jesus in the center with angels and disciples in the smaller flanking windows. In the south transept is a stained glass window, depicting an angel and a small child, made by the Tiffany in 1913. Both transepts have rose windows.

In 1970, a narthex and gallery were added to the church and a basement dug under the nave. After 1890, there were four small windows and the principal entrance in the west wall. They are now covered by the new addition.

Surrounding St. Thomas' Church on three sides is a graveyard. Southwest of the church is the parish hall, built in 1877. Additions to it during the 1920's and 1950's provide church offices and Sunday school rooms.

Facing southeast toward the front walk to the church is a large, stone mausoleum in memory of Richard Henry Moale, Jr. (1802-1848). Built of large blocks of cut sandstone, the mausoleum's design is that of a small chapel with a stocky tower over a shallow, projecting narthex. The entrance and the three vertical belfry openings above it are slightly pointed. Both nave and tower have a gable roof. The roof of the building and the door are cast iron. Surrounding the building is a prominent water table. Between it and the cornice are marble panels -- two vertical ones flanking the front tower, two horizontal ones on each side and three vertical in the rear. These give family Heaths from 1853 through 1964.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1743-44, 1890, 1970

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Thomas' Church is located in Garrison Forest at St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road in Baltimore County, Maryland. This church, authorized by an act of the colonial legislature on October 22, 1742, was built just west of the main road from Baltimore to Hanover, Pennsylvania. The new parish, initially part of St. Paul's in Baltimore, was requested by people in the expanding settlements north and northwest of Baltimore.

In the area later known as Garrison Forest was a military post to protect the tobacco planters and others moving to the interior. Because the trip to Baltimore was too long and difficult, the settlers requested a "chapel of ease" be built. It was actually a mission of St. Paul's parish.

The proposal for St. Thomas' was approved by St. Paul's Vestry, wardens, parishioners and the rector, Rev. Benedict Bourdillion. The project was financed through voluntary subscriptions to supplement provincial government money. In 1742, the Assembly passed an act which not only permitted certain persons to receive the contributions but gave them the power to assess less willing parishioners. The 1742 act provided for William Hamilton, Christopher Gist, Samuel Owings, Christopher Randall and Nicholas Haile to receive subscriptions to purchase two acres of land and to build a chapel on it. If voluntary contributions were not successful, an assessment on the new parish was granted. It was not to exceed £ 133.65.8d. in any one year for a maximum of three years.

The site for the chapel was selected in 1743. Two acres of land were bought from Christopher Gist for £4, and on July 19, 1743, the deed conveying the land to the vestry was acknowledged before two justices for the county, T. Sheredine and Charles Ridgely. Construction of the Church began, and, by the end of the year, the walls (except for four or five feet at the gables) and the roof were completed.

The 1742 act stated that St. Thomas' chapel and congregation would become a parish independent of St. Paul's upon Rev. Bourdillion's death (January 5, 1745). According to Scharf's History of Baltimore City and County the limits of the parish then extended south to the old court-road leading from the Patapsco Falls to Joppa, north to the Pennsylvania line, west to the Baltimore County line, east to the Big Gunpowder Falls, and "on the northeast to the Western Run, Piney Run, and a line northwest in the same direction, separating it from St. John's parish, now St. James'".

Within the parish when it was formed were 675 taxable persons and a total population of about 1,350. The vestry of the Church of England in Maryland carried out civil functions in addition to church duties. They collected the Bachelor Tax to finance the French and Indian War and investigated behavior of citizens whether church members or not.

See Continuation Sheet 1.

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St. Thomas' Church
Baltimore County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

(SIGNIFICANCE CONTINUED)

On May 28, 1745, St. Thomas' vestry contracted Col. William Hammond to level the church floor with earth within three bricks of the water table, floor part of the church with brick and cover it with pine plank on sleepers of red or Spanish oak and build five pews of panelwork. Because Col. Hammond failed to fulfill part of the contract, the vestry engaged William Cromwell on January 20, 1746, to build all the pews and to make the communion table rails and banisters of walnut. Col. Hammond was later (July 19, 1746) asked to paint the window shutters, doors, window frames and cornice red. By October 7, 1746, nineteen pews were finished and accepted. They were nearly square with seats on three sides with straight backs as high as the person seated.

The minister's salary at St. Thomas' Church was supported by a tax on all parish residents whether they were members of the Church of England or not. The sheriff collected forty pounds of tobacco for every white male and every servant over sixteen years. Records show a great increase in settlers in the area and a corresponding increase of four hundred percent in the minister's salary between 1745 and 1770.

St. Thomas' Church is significant historically and architecturally. The Church has been used continually since it was built. It was established as a type of mission church, part of St. Paul's parish in Baltimore. Even after St. Thomas' became a separate parish it continued to serve the new population of the settlements expanding northwest of Baltimore. The growth of the church is evident in its architecture. The Georgian nave and late nineteenth century additions are clearly visible. They as well as the recent narthex show good proportion and design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BA-48

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Rev. Michael G. Rokos, Assistant Rector/George J. Andreve, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

St. Thomas' Church/Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

212 St. Thomas Lane/ 21 State Circle, Shaw House/301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Owings Mills/AnnapolisMaryland 21117/21401**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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St. Thomas' Church
Baltimore County
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Beirne, Francis F. St. Paul's Parish, Baltimore. Baltimore: The Horn²Shafer Company, 1967.

The Garrison Church, Sketches of the History of St. Thomas Parish, Garrison Forest, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1742 to 1852. New York: James Pott and Co., 1898.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County, Part II. Originally published in one volume in Philadelphia, 1881. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1971.



- 516: FLEET HILL
 666: FINE PATTERSON
 661: DR CAMPBELL H.
 657: WINDSWEEP GARD
 44: APTASCO
 660: VICTORIAN HOS.
 654: MT. PLEASANT CT
 656/49: GRIFF HOUSE
 52: BRIDGES FIELDS
 48: ST. THOMAS CH.
 650: BALTIMORE COUNTY
 (Green Spring Mills)
 652: COOPERAGE (site)
 25: 634: BY WAY
 658: RICHARDS HOS.
 90: DEKA HILL
 653: OWINGS MILL STATION
 436/651: REESE HOUSE
 656: AMERICANA SHOP
 655: LAMAR HILL
 679: LYCETT HOUSE
 642: AUBURNDALE
 906: GARRISON P.O.
 683: SHOEMAKER HO
 648: SCHOOL HOUSE
 32: THE HEARNS
 647: BLACKSMITHS SHED
 42: TEN TYLE HOUSE
 842: McDONOUGH POINT HO
 677: BARN-DOLFE
 678: HIBLINE HOV
 31: McDONOUGH S
 643: WESTER OGLE
 644: McDONOUGH ST
 162: FOREST VIEW
 685: DR. INCE'S HOUSE
 636: VICTORIAN HOUSE
 67: A.E. GRAFT MILL
 160: MOUNT WILSON
 SANITARIUM
 436/000m N
 151-
 39°22'30"
 76°45'
 (BALTIMORE 560)

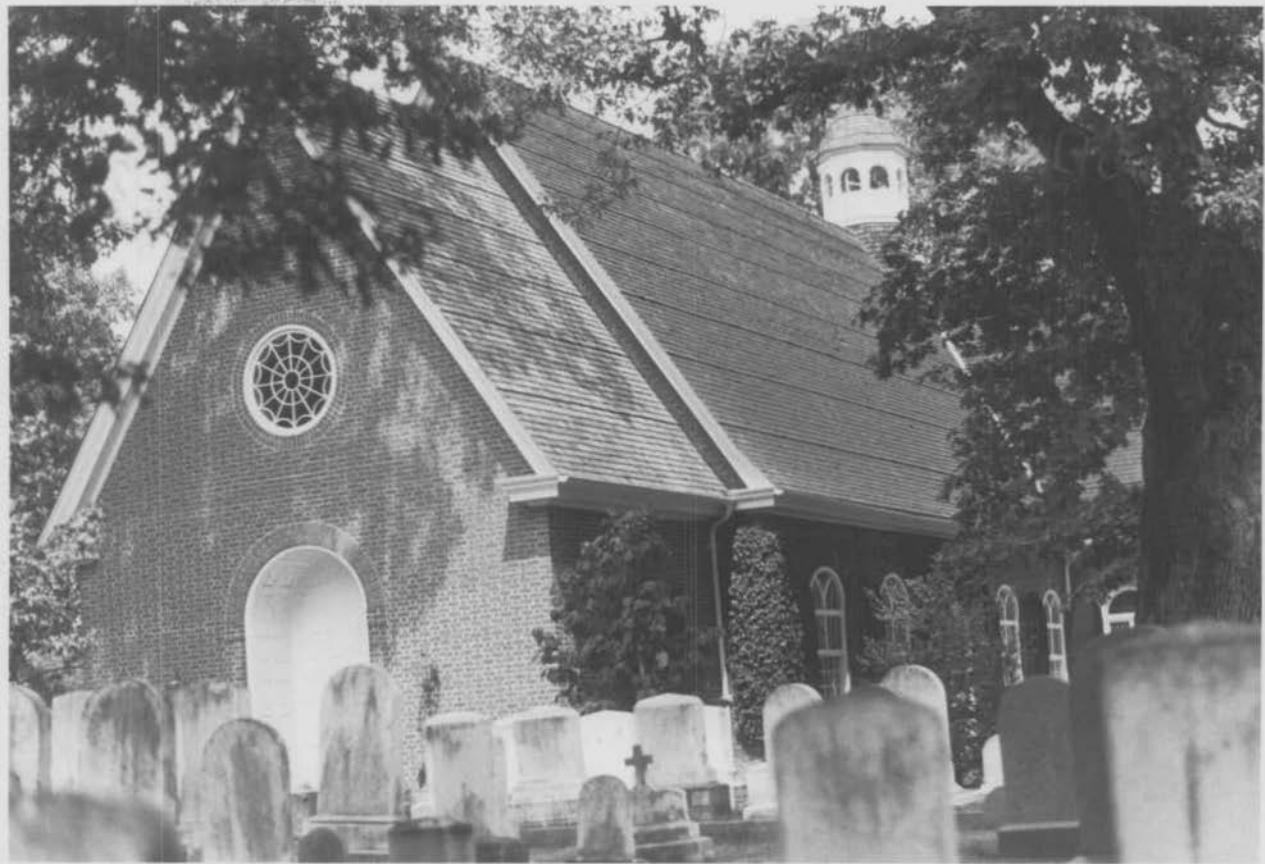
Reisterstown Quad

BA-48

Heavy-duty

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Light-duty



B-1428

St. Thomas Church
Balto. Co.
George Andrew
view from the south

Sept. 1977
neg. in file MAT



BH-4185

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County
~~Dever~~ George Andrew
Southeast exterior
of the nave

Sept. 1977

negative in file - MHT



BA-418

St. Thomas Church
Balto. Co. ^{George} ~~Stidene~~
interior of northwest
franciscan

Sept. 1977 - MAT
reg. in file



BP-118

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County
George Wise
interior - looking toward
chancel

Sept. 1977
negative in file - MHT



BA-LIE

St. Thomas
Church
Baltimore County
Burial Vault

MRE

Feb, 1978

Reg in file-MHT



PA-118

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County
Burial Vault

MRE Feb, 1978
Reg. in file - MHT

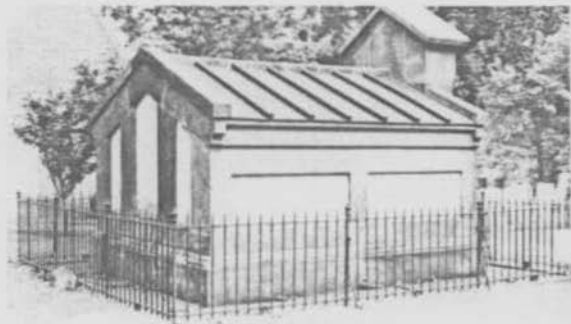


CAST IRON AS ROOFING

Nothing less than remarkable is the vast number of uses to which cast iron was put in the 19thC, ranging from the purely structural to the highly decorative, to the utilitarian, to all combinations of the above. Not common was its employment as an architectural sheathing material, if we discount the "cast-iron-front" buildings where the castings themselves generally represent but a small percentage of the total wall area with respect to the window openings. There is, of course, the well-known cast-iron warehouse at Watervliet Arsenal near Albany, N.Y. (1859) in which the wall panels on all four faces are of iron, but that is a rare exception.

Recently observed was a small stone crypt in the burying ground of St. Thomas church on Garrison Forest Rd., near Owings Mills, Baltimore Co., Md., built in 1848. The roof is formed of very shallow cast-iron channel or pan sections, legs up, laid tight. Pairs

of adjacent legs are embraced by narrow cast-iron channels turned down, sealing the joints between panels. Simple, weather-tight, and effective. The maker is not known but presumably was one of the many architectural foundries in Baltimore City. (See also the note on the cast-iron Weiskittel Burial Vault, *SIA* Jan. 76:3.)





BA 48

St. Thomas

Perish Hall

GSVHD

St. Thomas Le

JTW

8/22/79

Md. Hist.Tr.

from S.E.